



U.S. Department of Justice
Drug Enforcement Administration

Case Number: 13-00595-F

SEP 26 2013

Subject: SLAUGHTER, DUSTIN

MuckRock News
DEPT MR 6608
P.O. Box 55819
Boston, MA 02205-5819

Dear Mr. Slaughter:

This letter responds to your Freedom of Information/Privacy Act (FOI/PA) request dated 15 Aug, 2011, addressed to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), FOI/Records Management Section, Operations Unit (SARO), seeking expedited treatment.

The Department of Justice (DOJ) has provided guidance to Federal Agencies so that each request for expedited treatment receives consideration for "Exceptional need or urgency." See 28 C.F.R. § 16.5 (d). Under the FOIA, requests...will be taken out of order and given expedited treatment whenever it is determined that they involve:

- (i) Circumstances in which the lack of expedited treatment could reasonably be expected to pose an imminent threat to the life or physical safety of an individual;
- (ii) An urgency to inform the public about an actual or alleged federal government activity, if made by a person primarily engaged in disseminating information;
- (iii) The loss of substantial due process rights; or
- (iv) A matter of widespread and exceptional media interest in which there exist possible questions about the government's integrity which affect public confidence.

The FOI/Records Management Section, Operations Unit makes a determination regarding the first three standards while the Department of Justice's Director of Public Affairs makes the initial determination regarding the fourth standard. See id. § 16.5(d)(2). Based upon the information you submitted in your request, your request for expedited treatment has been denied. Unfortunately, you have not adequately met the requirements outlined above for your request to be considered for expedited treatment.

If you wish to appeal the denial of your request for expedited treatment, you may do so within 60 days from the date of this letter pursuant to 28 C.F.R. § 16.9. The appeal should be sent to the following address, with the envelope marked "FOIA Appeal":

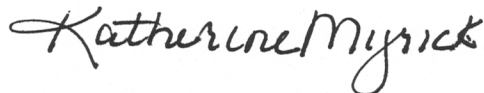
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICE OF INFORMATION POLICY
NYAV BUILDING, 11TH FLOOR
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20530

Accordingly, your request will be handled in chronological order based on the date of this letter. Please be assured that your request is being handled as equitably as possible. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me on (202) 307-7596 or forward your correspondence, referencing your case number to the following address:

:

DEA HEADQUARTERS
ATTN: OPERATIONS UNIT (SARO)
8701 MORRISSETTE DRIVE
SPRINGFIELD, VIRGINIA 22152

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katherine Myrick". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'K' and 'M'.

Katherine L. Myrick, Chief
Freedom of Information/Privacy Act Unit
FOI/Records Management Section